

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Original) A portable flexible carrier for drinking fluid comprising  
  
a flexible fluid container entirely encased within an outer separable cover produced from a chemically hardened material which is impermeable to chemical toxins in liquid or gaseous form, biological agents and radioactive particles,  
  
a tube connected to an opening of the flexible container and extending beyond the confines of the cover interior through which drinking fluid can be removed by suction from the container,  
  
a conduit produced from the chemically hardened material within which the entire length of the tube is encased,  
  
an ON/OFF valve in communication with the tube to enable fluid to flow under suction from the carrier interior to the conduit, and  
  
means for selectively sealing the cover interior and its contents from the atmosphere.

2. (Original) A carrier as claimed in claim 1 wherein the chemically hardened material comprises a fabric support covered by a protective complex which acts as a barrier to chemical toxins in liquid or gaseous form, biological agents and radioactive particles.

3. (Currently Amended) A carrier as claimed in claim 1 including shoulder straps to enable ~~it~~ the carrier to be carried on the back of the user.

4. (Currently Amended) A carrier as claimed in claim 1 including a selectively sealable pouch and a sealable flap which is able to overlie ~~the sealed~~ an end of the pouch.

5. (Currently Amended) A portable flexible carrier ~~as herein described and as described with reference to the accompanying drawings~~ comprising:

a cover to receive a pouch and a fluid container, the pouch substantially encasing the fluid container, the cover being made of a flexible chemically hardened material, the fluid container being made of a flexible material;

a first seal disposed at the pouch to selectively seal the pouch;

a flap disposed at the cover to substantially encase the pouch within the cover;

a second seal disposed at the flap to detachably couple the flap to the cover;

a tube with a first end and a second end extending from the cover, the first end received by the fluid container, the tube being made of a flexible impermeable material;

a valve disposed at the second end of the tube;

a tube conduit substantially surrounding the tube, the tube conduit being made of the flexible chemically hardened material; and

at least one shoulder strap disposed at the cover,

wherein the flexible chemically hardened material comprises a fabric support covered by a protective complex that provides a substantial barrier to chemical toxins in liquid or gaseous form, biological agents, and radioactive particles.